

Date

Ms. Mary Arnold
2641 Roxton Street
Sulphur, Louisiana 70663

Re: Ethics Board Docket No. 2016-106

Dear Ms. Arnold:

The Louisiana Board of Ethics, at its March 18, 2016 meeting, considered your request for an advisory opinion as to whether you, an employee of the Louisiana Department of Environmental Quality, may pay another employee to take your place when you are on-call for weekends. You stated that your job requires you to be a member of the Weekend Emergency Response Team. Once every three months, you are on-call in case there is an environmental emergency, in which case you are required to respond. You stated that the members of the Weekend Emergency Response Team are compensated with K-time equal to the amount of time spent responding to a call. If there are no calls, then the team members do not receive any compensation from the department. You stated that you would like to pay another employee to cover your weekends so you do not have to be on-call or respond to an emergency.

The Board concluded, and instructed me to inform you, that the Code of Governmental Ethics would prohibit you from paying another employee of the Louisiana Department of Environmental Quality to take your spot on the Weekend Emergency Response Team. **La. R.S. 42:1111A** prohibits a public employee from receiving anything of economic value, other than compensation and benefits from the governmental entity to which he is duly entitled, for the performance of the duties and responsibilities of his office or position.

This advisory opinion is based solely on the facts as set forth herein. Changes to the facts as presented may result in a different application of the provisions of the Code of Ethics. The Board issues no opinion as to past conduct or as to laws other than the Code of Governmental Ethics. If you have any questions, please contact me at (800) 842-6630 or (225) 219-5600.

Sincerely,

LOUISIANA BOARD OF ETHICS

Tracy M. Barker
For the Board